Export of Low Quality Coffee Seeds

830. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased tto state:

(a) the quantity of low quality coffee seeds exported during 1994-95 and the target fixed for export during 1995-96;

(b) whether Government are awre that the domestic market has been affected severely due to export of low quality coffee seeds;

(c) if so, the reasons for such export; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is no such classification of coffee as 'low quality coffee'. Coffee is normally classified as low and high grades according to bean size and preference in the market. A total quantity of 13,285 tonnes of low grads coffee was exported during 1994-95. Government does not fix gradewise target for export of coffee.

(b) No, Sir. No such report has been received. Export of low grade coffee constitutes on an average 10% of the total exports.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Now Coal Projects

831. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new coal projects have been approved during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some time limit has been prescribed for implementation of such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof, project-wise, with capacity and cost involved on each project; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) The Government have approved three new coal mining projects during 1994-95 details of which are given below:—

	Name of Project/Company	Capacity in million tonnes per annum	Sanctioned cost in Rs. crores	Target date of achieving project output
1.	Padmavati Khani Underground, SCCL	1.20	196.17	March, 2000
2.	Urimari Opencast, CCL	1.30	95.33	March, 1998
3.	Mugoli Opencast, WCL	0.80	83.63	March, 1999

Import of Soyabean by SOPA

832. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rules were relaxed to allow the Soyabean Processors Association of India (SOPA) to import one million tonnes of Soyabean;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated losses in custom duties on this account;

(d) whether Agriculture Ministry has apprehended that Soyabean import may infect domestic Soyabean crop as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated 4.7.95 and 5.7.95;

(e) whether SOPA met the export obligation and

(f) if not, the action taken against SOPA in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM); (a) and (b) No licence has been issued to SOPA. However, 38 firms registered with SOPA obtained Advance Licences under the Special Scheme notified by Public Notice No. 273 dated 20.2.1995 in accordance with the provision of the Export & Import Policy.

(c) Duties exempted under the Duty Exemption Scheme allowing benefits of duty free imports for use in export products cannot be regarded as revenue loss.

(d) to (f) In order to ensure that domestic soyabean crop is not infected, imported soyabean consignments are put to strict quarantine tests by the concerned Governmental agencies before allowing clearance.

According to available information, only one firm has imported 23,300 MT of soyabean which has been recently cleared after having undergone the quarantine formalities.

Control of Shrimp Virus in Andhra Pradesh

833. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPEDA had not taken adequate precautions in 1994-95 to control the virus which wiped out shrimp farms in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for this negligence; and

(c) what action is proposed for this negligence on part of MPEDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) immediately after the outbreak of virus disease in shrimp farms in Andhra Pradesh in 1994-95, MPEDA initiated precautionary measures which included the following:—

(i) Recommendation for declaration of 'crop holiday' for a period of 3-4 months as a measure to contain the spread of the virus;

(ii) Issue of guidelines for re-starting shrimp farming after the crop holiday;

(iii) Dissemination amongst farmers of information on pollution control including design for effluent treatment system developed and suggested by the National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

थोक मूल्य सूचकांक

834. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष की प्रथम तिमाही तक गत तीन वर्षों में प्रत्येक तिमाही के दौरान थोक मूल्य सूचकांक क्या रहे हैं;

(ख) उपरोक्त अवधि के दौरान खाद्य वस्तुओं के थोक मूल्य सूचकांक क्या रहे; और

(ग) थोक मूल्य सूचकांक में वृद्धि के लिए कौन-कौन से मुख्य कारण उत्तरदायी हैं और इस वृद्धि को काबू में रखने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्त मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) और (ख) गत 3 वर्षों के लिए समग्र वस्तुओं तथा खाद्य वस्तुओं हेतु तिमाही थोक मूल्य सूचकांक दर्शाने वाला विवरण अनुपत्र पर दिया गया है। [**देखिए** परिशिष्ट 174, अनुपत्र सं०-27]

(ग) वस्तुओं के मूल्य स्तरों में वृद्धि, अर्थव्यवस्था के मांग और पूर्ति संबंधी विभिन्न कारकों के पारस्परिक प्रभाव के फलस्वरूप होती है। मूल्यों में वृद्धि के कुछ कारण हैं: दालों और खाद्य तेलों जैसी वस्तुओं की मांग और पूर्ति के बीच अन्तर होना, वर्ष के दौरान किसी वस्तु विशेष के उत्पादन में गिरावट आना, निवेश लागतों में वृद्धि के कारण कृषि जन्य उत्पादों के न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्यों में संशोधन होना, वर्षानुवर्ष जनसंख्या में निरन्तर वृद्धि के कारण बढ़ी हुई मांग में वृद्धि होना। मूल्यों को नियंत्रित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों में,